Amendments to the Claims:

1. (original): In a method of compiling satellite imagery and generating a map therefrom, an improvement comprising:

watermarking image data acquired by a satellite;

storing the watermarked image data in a database;

generating a map from the database; and

watermarking the map.

2. (currently amended): In a method of generating a digital map from a database containing data from a plurality of aerial sources, an improvement comprising generating a digital map; and then watermarking the map.

3. (previously presented): The method of claim 2 in which the watermarking encodes, or points to, information that is also conveyed with said map in the form of header data.

4. (original): The method of claim 2 in which the watermark permits later identification of the data sources used in generating the map.

5. (original): The method of claim 2 in which the watermark comprises, or serves as a link to, an image identifier.

6. (original): The method of claim 2 in which the watermark comprises, or links to, data identifying at least one of the following: component maps used in forming said digital map, the date of digital map creation, an identifier corresponding to a person who created the digital map, an identifier corresponding to a person to whom the digital map was provided.

7. (currently amended): The method of claim 2 in which the watermark is designed to evidence processing ~~b e lost, or degrade predictably,~~ when the map is processed in a particular manner.

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8. (previously presented): A composite map formed from plural sets of component map data, characterized in that said plural sets of component map data each are encoded with a different watermark, each of said different watermarks encoding, or linking to, meta data associated with its respective component map data.

9. (new): A method of steganographically embedding auxiliary data in imagery comprising:

receiving imagery including a first geolocation estimate steganographically embedded therein, wherein the first geolocation estimate corresponds to at least one area depicted in the imagery;

determining a second geolocation estimate, the second geolocation estimate comprising a more precise geolocation estimate, relative to the first geolocation estimate, for the at least one area depicted in the imagery; and

steganographically embedding the second geolocation estimate in the imagery.

10. (new): The method of claim 9, wherein the second geolocation estimate overwrites the first geolocation estimate.

11. (new): The method of claim 9, where the second geolocation estimate overlays the first geolocation estimate.

12. (new): A method of managing imagery, the imagery passing through at least a first system and being received at a second system, said method comprising:

receiving the imagery at the second system, the imagery comprising a first digital watermark embedded therein, wherein the first digital watermark was embedded in the imagery by the first system, and wherein the first digital watermark comprises geo-location data associated with at least a first area depicted in the imagery; and

while at the second system, embedding a second digital watermark in the imagery, the second digital watermark identifying at least one of the second system and information associated with a geo-location of at least the first area depicted in the imagery.

13. (new): The method of claim 12, wherein the first system comprises an aerial capture platform and the second system comprises a ground station.

14. (new): The method of claim 12, wherein the first system comprises a ground station that receives the imagery from an aerial platform.

15. (new): The method of claim 12, wherein the first system comprises an geo-location determining system.